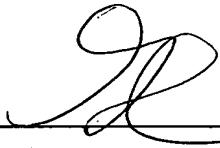


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment assumes prior entry of the Article 34 amendment to the claims. Applicants request that the amendments to claims 1-17 presented herewith be entered prior to examination in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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